Louise R. Lynn 19060 Lincoln Road Purcellville, VA 20132 540-751-0815 Louise@rstarmail.com

May 10, 2010

I am requesting approval from the Loudoun Historic Review Committee to have solar panels installed on my house for a solar electric energy system.

I have signed a contract with Solar Energy World for \$28,980. for this system, and already paid a \$9,000. deposit. We were fortunate to have obtained a VA State Rebate reservation to receive \$7,164. upon completion of this system, to be claimed before May 23, 2010. They have a long waiting list of others for these limited rebate funds.

Solar Energy World was getting the permit for the installation, and has submitted their engineering studies and plans to Loudoun County. The installation is scheduled to be begin

on this Wednesday, May 12, 2010.

On May 3 I received a call from the Loudoun Zoning office telling me I needed approval from the Historic Review Committee before they would release the permit that was otherwise ready. I was told to call Heidi of the Committee. She told me that the committee was meeting today, May 10, but that it was too late to be considered on the agenda for this meeting, and that the next meeting would be in June. That is too late for us to receive our rebate funds from VA.

I stand to lose my \$9,000. deposit with Solar Energy World and the VA energy rebate of \$7,164. The company has done the engineer studies, ordered the panels and electric equipment. I also have received approval for a \$10,000. loan from Enerbank for this system. It cannot be used for anything else.

My understanding of the historic concerns were that the panels were to be on the back roof of the house and follow the line of the roof, both of which they do. I have still not been able to download the current historic regulations from the county website. The information I was using was from a printed copy of the regulations I received much earlier when we were considering this project. In talking with Heidi, we discovered that our house is not facing the road and the "back" of the house is at the south side, not squared, sideways to the road. There are many trees along the road and in the back yard which make the panels very

hidden from view. I have included some photos of our house along with pictures of the panels and the plan for them on our roof.

I can try to get an extension from VA to claim my rebate, but have no idea whether this is possible. I have not been able to get a reply from them - only printed information online. They have a very long waiting list for these funds. We were fortunate to request them as soon as the program was announced and the monies were all reserved within 5 days

of the program being announced.

Our house is on a farm and not in a town or village. The panels are on the back of the house and follow the roof line. There are so many trees between the house and the road, many are evergreen pine and hollies, that we do not feel that the historic look of the house is

greatly affected. It would be a considerable hardship for us to be denied permission at this point for the installation. We have been very conscientious about keeping the historic nature of our property in all the restorations we have done over the past 7 years. It was in

very bad condition when we bought the farm with a leaking roof, malfunctioning septic system, no heat in part of the house, no air conditioning, etc. We have done a geothermal

heating and air conditioning system and the solar electric will improve the air quality by not

burning oil and using electricity produced by coal and gas for energy here in Loudoun Co.

We hope that you can approve our solar installation in time for us to move forward with another improvement to the property.

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